which have been made available to the Press. The tax on other coconut trees in the Tanjore district is the same as that levied in the Trichinopoly district.

Mr. K. SINGAM AYYANGAR :—" With reference to the answer to clause (c), may I know what 'the peculiar history of the tree-tax system in the Tanjore district' is? Is it based on climatic conditions? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" I am sorry I must ask for notice of that question."

Sale of lands in the North Arcot district during the kist season of fasli 1342.

* 128 *Q*.—Mr. M. B. RANGASWAMI REDDI: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased—

(*a*) to give talukwar figures in the North Arcot district for land sales during the kist season from the first month of the kistbandi of fasli 1342; and

(*b*) to state—

(i) whether it is a fact that tahsildars have advised the village officers to proceed with the land sales;

(ii) whether the village officers were compelled to pay from their pockets the land tax due from the defaulters at the end of the kist season; and

(iii) if so, in how many cases (figures may be furnished talukwar)?

A.—(*a*) A statement [a] is annexed.

(*b*) (i) The Government have no information.

(ii) The answer is in the negative.

Mr. BASHEER AHMED SAYEED :—" May I know whether the Government will be able to tell this House the reasons for this abnormal number of sales amounting to 244 and 163 in the taluks of Wallajah and Arkonam? "

The hon. Sir ARCHIBALD CAMPBELL :—" I have not got the information; I shall call for it."

Protection of wild birds and animals

Cattle destroyed by wild beasts in South Kanara.

* 129 *Q*.—Mr. U. C. SUBRAHMANYA BHATT : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to place on the table of the House a statement showing the number of heads of cattle carried away by wild beasts in the villages of South Kanara, during the years 1928–29 to 1931–32 and to state—

(*a*) whether the statistics of the cattle killed by wild beasts are published in Government publication, and if not, what the reasons are for not publishing;

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[a] Printed as Appendix V on page 123 infra.

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(*b*) what the various kinds of wild beasts thriving in South Kanara are;

(*c*) whether their number is increasing with the growth of reserve forests and their improvement in the district;

(*d*) what steps the Government have taken to check the increase and depredation of wild beasts; and

(*e*) what facilities are placed at the disposal of cultivators for checking such depredation?

A.—A statement is annexed.[a]

(*a*) No. Until 1916 the statistics were included in the Annual return showing the measures taken for the destruction of wild animals submitted to the Government by the Board of Revenue. In 1916 this Government at the instance of the Government of India ordered that the particulars showing the number of cattle killed by wild animals should be omitted from the return. The return was discontinued altogether from 1929 as it was considered that the figures given were unreliable.

(*b*) & (*c*) Wild animals which may be dangerous to life are tigers, panthers, and elephants; others that may be destructive of crops are deer, monkeys and pigs.

The Government are not aware whether the numbers of such animals are increasing.

(*d*) The Government offer and grant rewards for the destruction of certain wild animals. The hon. Member's attention is invited to Board's Standing Order No. 196.

(*e*) People are allowed to hunt certain species of wild animals in reserved forests during July to January subject to the condition that the previous permission of the Collector or the Revenue Divisional Officer is obtained and that an officer of the Forest Department is present at the time of the hunt. Gun licences are also granted by the District Magistrate at his discretion.

Secretariat

Appointment of outsiders as superintendents in the Secretariat.

* 130 *Q.*—B. Pocker Sahib Bahadur: Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that, in some of the vacancies that arose in the cadre of superintendents in some of the departments of the Secretariat during the past one year, outsiders working as head clerks or managers in city offices were appointed as superintendents in the Secretariat; and

(*b*) if so, the names of the persons so appointed with their qualifications and the pay drawn at the time of the appointment as superintendent?

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[a] Printed as Appendix VI on page 123 infra.